



## **Arlington Council on Aging**

### **Minutes**

*Date: Thursday January 18, 2024 Time: 6:00 pm*

***Present: Kristine Shah, Michael Quinn, Anne Brown, Nancy Cox, Nancy Feeney, Mary Hung, Bob Tosi (remote), Karen Nichols (remote)***

*The Council's primary responsibilities are to design, promote, and implement programs and services to address the needs of the community's elder population, and to coordinate existing services in the community.*

1. Call to order – 6:02pm
2. Minutes of the December 2023 meeting for approval – Anne Brown motioned to approve, Nancy Feeney second, unanimously approved.
3. Citizen's Open Forum- none
4. Report: Executive Director- Kristine provided the following report:
  - I. Programs/Activities Update:
    - a. Lunar New Year Celebration, January 25, waiting list
    - b. Line Dancing starts this month, waiting list
    - c. Links Snow Shoveling and Sand/Salt Bucket Update
    - d. AARP tax appointments February 8-April 11
    - e. Promoting increase in MA Senior Circuit Breaker Credit- Michael Quinn asked to make sure to include this info in the April newsletter as well even though it is at the end of the season.
    - f. Updating Emergency Contacts Project
  - II. COA Parking Permits: 1,530 distributed to date
    - a. Issue with snow/weather- 14 have needed to be replaced thus far, we are working to make sure residents are not stressed about getting replacements and also working with vendor to improve for future.
    - b. Update to be given to Select Board during February 5 meeting
  - III. Harry Barber Renter Relief Program - Full; Volunteer Property Tax Work Off- Full; Elderly and Disabled Tax Relief Applications Due January 31.

IV. Budget

- a. Translation Grant \$4,700 to be used to translate 3 upcoming newsletter issues in to simple Chinese
- b. 3 FY25 CDBG Grant Applications Submitted (\$30K Transportation Program, \$52,122 Volunteer/Transportation Coordinator, \$10K Adult Day Health Scholarships), presenting to Select Board at February 5 meeting
- c. State Budget Cuts- Kristine Shared that currently ACOA isn't effected by state budget cuts (a different type of grant was cut that Arlington does not receive currently). Board members can still call their representatives to advocate for keeping older adult related funding, if they choose.

V. Board Member Engagement Opportunities

- a. New Board Member Recruitment- thank you to Mary Hung for getting interest from multiple residents

5. Report: Chair - no report

6. Report: Minuteman Senior Services- Marge was absent so Kristine provided update regarding Older Adult Lobby Day at the State House.

7. Old Business- none

8. New Business - none

9. Other Community Announcements - none

10. Adjourn - **Next meeting: February 15, 2024**